

**William Thornton, Alexander White, and Tristram Dalton,
Commissioners to Thomas Jefferson, January 22, 1802,
from Thomas Jefferson and the National Capital. Edited
by Saul K. Padover.**

Commissioners To Jefferson

Commissioners Office 22nd. January 1802.

Sir

The term having expired during which the first and third Articles of the Terms and Conditions, declared by the President of the United States on the 17th. October 1791 for regulating the materials and manner of building and improvements on the Lots in the City of Washington, have been suspended—We have taken the subject into consideration and are of opinion that it may be expedient to extend the indulgence last given to the end of the present year, with this difference that no wooden building covering more than 320 Square feet, or more than 12 feet high from the Sills to the eve, shall be permitted; houses of that discription will be sufficient for Tradesmen or others of small property for whose encouragement

and accommodation alone we should think it adviseable to permit Wooden buildings of any dimensions to be erected in the City. We inclose a writing agreeably to former precedents for your signiture should you approve of the measure proposed.

We are &c.

Wm. Thornton

Library of Congress

A. White

T. Dalton

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

[Pp. 124–5, COMMISSIONERS' LETTERBOOK, Vol. 6, 1800–02, in the National Archives.]